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RECORD WANT ADS COST LITTLE-RETURN BIG.

Twin Craters

By OTILLIA F. PFEIFFER

(Copyright, 1917 by the Western News-

It would have made no difference if he had been poor as a church mouse to Alice Leigh, but Wade Porter did not know that. Besides, he resented the idea of asking a girl brought up amid wealth and luxury to risk uniting herself to a man without means, and one, too, who had not even demon-

strated his business abilities. "She likes you, Wade," his best friend, Neil Wolfson, told him, "and when a woman like Alice Leigh fixes her affections they are likely to prove

lasting. "Then I will not take advantage of her confidence," answered Wade reso-Intely. "I believe there is something in me worth bringing out, and when I have proven that, I am going to her like a man and tell her so."

In a careless moment Neil imparted this information to his sister and she in turn passed it along to Alice. The latter was made very happy by the intelligence. When Wade, all unconscious of this, made a call upon her his hope was increased and his ambitions stimulated by the gracious way in which Alice treated him. He made his preparations to qualify for a position in another city, when he received a letter from an aunt whose husband had recently died and its contents quite interested and excited him.

"Your uncle always liked you," wrote the lady, "and it was his will that you should be remembered before he died, but the latter years of his life he had some serious business troubles and did not attend to it. Just beblock north Clapp's hardware fore he died however, he asked me to see to it that you were given some mining property he had traded for in Arisona. It is my duty to tell you that after looking up the property he was very much disappointed. Still, he said that you were young, active, ambitions, and that you might make something out of a proposition he had Rooms 4 and 5, Opera House Block grown too old to handle."

When Wade told his friend Nell Wolfson of his acquisition the latter FIRE INSURANCE was fired with enthusiasm. "Why," declared the latter, "I'd give all I have for a chance like that. Gold, silver, adventure! The very uncertainty of the thing is fascinating," and he offered to supply the capital to finance the Arizona exploitation.

It was on the morning of a gloomy, threatening day that the two adventurers halted their tired steeds at a straggling, dismal looking settlement fitly designated as Last Hope. They had traversed a barren alkali stretch of over a hundred miles without passing a single habitation. Then had come the mountains. Here at the apex was Last Hope, which was a half-way point between a number of isolated mining camps. The tavern keeper viewed the two young men with a pitying expression of face as they divulged

the motive of their coming. "I hope you're not expecting gold or silver," he observed. "I don't suppose there is a foot of Twin Craters that has not been prospected and not First-class service guaranteed at a so much as a true fissure vein of gold or a specimen of horn silver discovered. Some shrewd speculators salted it once and paimed it off on a tender-

foot investor in the East." 'Well, we will look it over, anyway." suggested Neil, which they did and camped on their possession that night, a gloonly, uncongenial duo.

They were discussing the feasibility of a return to civilization early the next morning when an automobile came lumbering towards them. It held half a dozen well-dressed, intelligent looking men, and was followed by a motortruck loaded with surveying and other scientific instruments. A brisk, pleasant-faced young man approached from the automobile first to arrive. He spoke courteously in greet ing and then with a keen, searching

"Looking up the old craters, gentle-

"No." replied Wade bluntly, "discussing the surest means of getting away from them as far as possible. I was lured out here thinking that there might be some value to the four hundred acres of land which a relative of mine left to me.'

"Hello! You're not the owner of the craters, are you?" propounded the stranger eagerly.

"I am that unfortunate individual." acknowledged Wade, trying to smile. "Then you are the very person we shall be looking for as soon as we have made a little calculation as to how much water those extinct craters will hold. My associates youder are capitalists from the East. They own over two hundred thousand acres of the most arid, but also most fertile land in Arizona, seventy-two miles away. If science and cement can make those great natural reservoirs. leak proof, we can pump up water from the river, lay a pipe system to our land and turn the desert into a

garden of beauty." 'What a scheme!" exclaimed Neil Wolfson later.

"And what a price they offer-two hundred thousand dollars! Why, on a fifty-fifty basis, that makes us both rich!" echoed Wade.

"Yes, you can now carry out all your ambitious business plans back home," observed Neil. "And win Alice!" murmured Wade raptly.

Polyclot Switzerland.

French, Italian and German are th chief languages spoken in Switzer land, each predominating in section bordering the respective countries.

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